



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

DEC 03 2007

Mr. Onis "Trey" Glenn III
Alabama Department of Environmental
Management
P.O. Box 301463
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463

Dear Mr. Glenn:

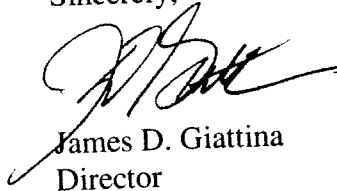
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the revisions to Chapter 335-6-10 (Water Quality Criteria) and Chapter 335-6-11 (Water Use Classifications For Interstate and Intrastate Waters) of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) Administrative Code, adopted by the Alabama Environmental Management Commission (EMC) on April 20, 2007. The revisions were submitted to the EPA for review by letter dated October 15, 2007, and were certified on September 19, 2007, by the State Attorney General as being duly adopted pursuant to State law on April 20, 2007. The State's submittal included a minor clarification regarding the form of the mercury and selenium criteria within Table 1. The submittal also included the addition of the Public Water Supply (PWS) use to one segment of Choccolocco Creek, the assignment of the Fish and Wildlife (F&W) use to a segment of Black Creek, and the addition of the Outstanding Alabama Water (OAW) use to a portion of Wolf Bay.

The revisions to Table 1 will clarify that the aquatic life and human health criteria for mercury and the freshwater aquatic life criteria for selenium are expressed as the total recoverable form of the metal in the water column. The adoption of the PWS use results in additional protection for human health previously not provided to these waters. The adoption of the F&W use results in additional protection not previously provided by this segment's former designation and is consistent with the "fishable/swimmable" goals of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The adoption of the OAW use provides additional protection for aquatic life. The State has appropriately adopted the PWS, F&W, and OAW uses consistent with Section 303(c) of the CWA and 40 CFR Part 131. Therefore, EPA approves all of Alabama's April 20, 2007, revisions to the State's water quality standards pursuant to the Agency's authority under Section 303(c) of the CWA and its implementing regulations at 40 CFR Part 131.

EPA commends the efforts of you and your staff in ADEM's continued commitment to water quality improvement. If you have questions regarding EPA's

approval, please contact me at (404) 562-9345 or have a member of your staff contact Lauren Petter at (404) 562-9272.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Giattina', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James D. Giattina

Director

Water Management Division

cc: Lynn Sisk, ADEM